

**THE KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA PARTNERSHIP
STEERING GROUP – 20 MARCH 2002 MEETING**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL STRATEGY – TIMETABLE AND
PROGRESS**

REPORT BY TOWN CLERK AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1 REVISED TIMETABLE

On 12 February the Government Office for London (GOL) issued a new timetable for the preparation of Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies (LNRS), recognising that the original deadline of 1 April might mitigate against involving local people in unpicking the problems of their area and devising solutions and so “could risk squeezing out the most important part of the process”.

GOL’s requirements under the new timetable area are as follows:

By April 2002

- a framework LNRS which should identify priorities in terms of geographical areas and issues identified through baseline data analysis. It need not at this stage identify solutions.

By September 2002

- a full LNRS.
- information on the use of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF):
 - a Statement of Use providing an outturn report on the use of NRF for 2001/02;
 - use of 2002/03 NRF to 30 September 2002; and
 - a forecast of use of NRF to end of 2002/03

In their letter of 28 February, the GOL state that they see Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies as the key to helping GOL meet its targets set by Central Government on health, crime, education, housing and employment. At the same time, “partners, individually and collectively, will need to consider carefully how they can use mainstream programmes in order to address locally identified issues which emerge as a result of working with local people to get to the root cause of the problems in their neighbourhoods.”

The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership is not alone in finding tensions between national targets and local priorities.

2 PROGRESS

As agreed in January, the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy of the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership will comprise three elements:

- Part 1 **Strategic Framework**
- Part 2 **Area Profiles**
- Part 3 **Action Plans for the Priority Areas**

2.1 Strategic Framework

Consultation has taken place on the proposed strategic objectives, as modified by the steering group at its January meeting. The outcome of the public consultation on these is contained in the *Report of the Findings of Consultation on the Draft Strategies*. The draft objectives were also considered and debated by managers within mainstream services, the voluntary sector and other public agencies at the first meeting of the Regeneration Exchange held on 8 February 2002.

The objectives have been modified to take account of comments received from all sources, and a revised set is included in the accompanying document *Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy - Strategic Framework and Area Profiles*.

2.2 Area Profiles

Separate profiles have been prepared for three areas:

- North Kensington and Notting Hill
- Kensington and Earls Court
- South Kensington and Chelsea

The profiles are contained in the document *Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy - Strategic Framework and Area Profiles*

Together, they provide the context for debating the location of neighbourhood renewal Priority Areas and, specifically, for the targeting of the approximately £2m of NRF available to Kensington and Chelsea over the next two years (see separate report).

More broadly, the profiles are intended to present to the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership an overview of neighbourhood resources, needs, issues, opinions, plans and opportunities, to inform its debates. As this exercise has not been attempted before, it may be wise to allow partners a period of time, to 12 April, in which to consider and comment on the profiles before they are published.

2.3 Action Plan for the Priority Areas

The extension of the timetable for the preparation of an Action Plan is welcomed and necessary. For the purposes of the NRS, it is **recommended** that the existing wards of Golborne and St Charles are designated the Priority Areas.

To ensure coherence and local accountability, it is **recommended** that the production of the Action Plan should be advanced through one or more meetings of the North Kensington Regeneration Partnerships (NKRP) and more broadly-based local consultation. The NKRPs comprise the three SRB

partnerships (FUNK, Golborne United and Dalgarno), together with the two Sure Start partnerships (North West Kensington and Golborne). The Action Plan will need to relate to the delivery plans of the Partnerships, any mid-programme reviews and the exit strategy of FUNK SRB.

In setting local performance measures, the Action Plan will need to:

- take account of the targets to which mainstream services are working; and
- be integrated into work currently underway on setting targets as part of a Public Service Agreement between the Council and Government.

3 SUMMARY

3.1 What Has Been Achieved

June 2001	Establishment of cross-agency Neighbourhood Renewal steering group
July – March 2001	Implementation of Year 1 NRF programme
October 2001 - February 2002	Integrated consultation on the draft Community Strategy and Neighbourhood Renewal priorities
December 2001	Fact-finding and opinion survey of mainstream service managers carried out by MORI
December 2001 - February 2002	Preparation of area profiles of the borough
January – February 2002	Consultation on the strategic objectives
February 2002	Launch of the Regeneration Exchange, a quarterly meeting of managers from the mainstream services, the voluntary sector and agencies active in the borough

3.2 Next Steps

By 12 April 2002	Receive observations on the Area Profiles
By 30 April 2002	Submission to GOL of framework of the NRS and NRF Year 2 Programme
By 30 June 2002	Preparation of Action Plan for the Priority Areas
By 30 September 2002	Submission to GOL of full NRS
By 30 September 2002	Submission to GOL of information on use of the NRF

By 31 March 2003	Implementation of Year 2 NRF programme
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4 DECISIONS

The steering group is requested to agree to:

1. the submission of the document *Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy - Strategic Framework and Area Profiles* to the Government Office for London
2. the recommendations, contained in section 2.3, regarding the preparation of an Action Plan for the Golborne and St Charles wards of the borough

For decision

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